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FOLK-LORE SCRAP-BOOK.

A VODOO FESTIVAL NEAR NEW ORLEANS. — A reporter of the New Orleans "Times-Democrat," June 24, 1896, gives an account of an expedition in search of the Voodoo orgies said to be still occasionally kept up in that city on St. John's Eve. The writer says that, although twenty years ago any person might easily have witnessed the dances, in these later years the celebration has taken on so much secrecy that the police are incredulous of the existence of any such thing. A physician, however, who had occasion to treat a colored female servant, was able to obtain from her directions as to the locality of the meeting, and in company with this person describes his adventures, the scene being on Bayou St. John. The reporter affirms that he was able to witness the ceremonies from concealment in neighboring rushes. These rites consisted in building a large fire, in dance on the part of a central personage, the destruction of a black cat, and its devouring raw. The scene concluded with an orgie, in which the savage actors ended by tearing off their garments. Such is the theatrical description, given with various adornments, and with the words of a song said to be chanted on the occasion: "Au joli cocodri — Vini gro cocodri — Mo pas ouar cocodri zombi! — Yo! Ya! Colombo!"

SUPERSTITION RELATING TO CROSSED FEATHERS. — It is somewhat singular to find in a French journal, a recent number of "*Le Journal d'hygiène*" (our correspondent does not furnish indications as to the number), mention of a superstition said to belong to the population of a town in Michigan, of Dutch extraction, named Graafschap. In case of sickness resisting all efforts of physicians, the difficulty is attributed to the machinations of a devil supposed to reside in feathers. The feather pillows and feather beds of the village are then examined, and, if any feathers are found crossed, these are thrown into the fire, as connected with the diabolical agency. In one of these examinations, the wind having dispersed the feathers, consternation resulted; and at the time of the writer's observation it was usual to plunge into boiling water any hen or goose found to exhibit on its body crossing feathers. So gravely states the French correspondent.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

CERTAIN CANADIAN SUPERSTITIONS. — The following sayings were jotted down while teaching one summer in a Canadian settlement in the far West. They are a very provincial people. I found Irish, Scotch, and French Canadians coming from widely separated parts of Canada to have the same accent and use the same words, phrases, and sayings. There seems to be something distinctively Canadian about their use of food stuffs, manner of cooking, keeping house, plan of buildings, and general appearance of their farms.